

Terry Branstad, Iowa  
Jack Dalrymple, North Dakota  
Dave Heineman, Nebraska  
Jay Nixon, Missouri



Sam Brownback, Kansas  
Dennis Daugaard, South Dakota  
Matthew H. Mead, Wyoming  
Brian Schweitzer, Montana

August 19, 2011

The Honorable John McHugh  
Secretary of the Army  
Department of the Army  
101 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310

Dear Secretary McHugh:

The Governors and their representatives of seven states directly affected by the Missouri River met in Omaha, Nebraska today to discuss our concerns with and issues related to the Missouri River flood control in the wake of this year's historic flooding and unprecedented flows. There is clear consensus that flood control must be the highest priority in the operation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System.

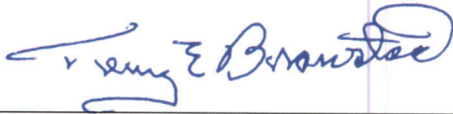
Releases from Corps of Engineers' managed reservoirs have been at unprecedented rates and durations this year. Despite the valiant efforts of many, the damage to homes, farms and industries will take years to repair. We all share in the challenges of helping repair those damages and reducing the chances of future flood damages.

We strongly request the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers thoroughly examine future management of the Missouri River in light of this year's precipitation and flooding and report to us on alternate actions to reduce flood damage from future high flow events. We also request that the Corps provide recommendations for specific operational changes to afford greater flood protection in the basin in the future and consult with the states and tribes in selecting and implementing any changes.

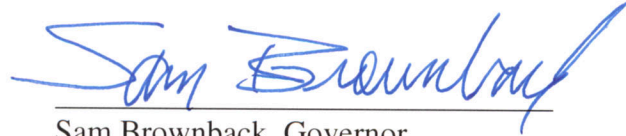
We look forward to working with the Corps of Engineers in meeting flood control challenges and await your response.

The Honorable John McHugh  
August 19, 2011  
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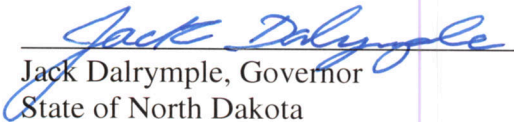
Sincerely,



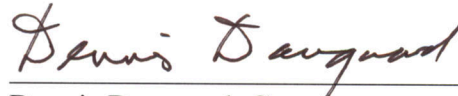
Terry Branstad, Governor  
State of Iowa



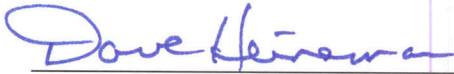
Sam Brownback, Governor  
State of Kansas



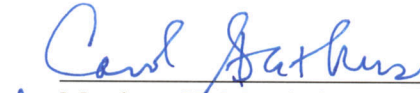
Jack Dalrymple, Governor  
State of North Dakota



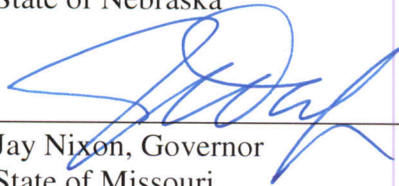
Dennis Daugaard, Governor  
State of South Dakota



Dave Heineman, Governor  
State of Nebraska



Matthew H. Mead, Governor  
State of Wyoming



Jay Nixon, Governor  
State of Missouri

cc: Leon E. Panetta, U.S. Secretary of Defense  
Jo-Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works)  
MG William T. Grisoli, Deputy Commanding General, Civil and Emergency Operation  
BG John R. McMahon, Commander, USACE Northwestern Division  
COL Robert J. Ruch, Commander, USACE Omaha District  
COL Anthony J. Hofmann, Commander, USACE, Kansas City District